

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 RANGOO 03487 150928Z

10

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13

JUSE-00 NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-06

OMB-01 IGA-02 SS-15 /072 W  
----- 071296

R 150810Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2451

C O N F I D E N T I A L RANGOON 3487

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, BM

SUBJ: NARCOTICS ASSISTANCE -- F-27

1. AS THE DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, THE F-27 AIRCRAFT PROVIDED TO THE GUB UNDER THE NARCOTICS CONTROL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ARRIVED IN RANGOON WITH ELECTRONIC AND MECHANICAL PROBLEMS. OTHERS HAVE SINCE DEVELOPED. THESE PROBLEMS INCLUDE AN INOPERABLE PRESSURIZATION SYSTEM; LACK OF SPARE TIRES (THEY ARE REPORTED TO BE STILL IN ANKARA); LEAKS IN THE HYDRAULIC SYSTEM; AND INOPERABLE RADIO EQUIPMENT. MOREOVER, BECAUSE THIS AIRCRAFT IS AN OLDER MODEL THAN THE BAC'S CIVILIAN F-27, MANY OR MOST OF THE PARTS ARE NOT COMPATIBLE. CONSEQUENTLY, THE AIRCRAFT CANNOT YET BE USED FOR OPERATIONAL MISSIONS.

2. THE PRIMARY REASON THE BURMESE HAVE NOT UNTIL NOW ASKED US TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY SPARE PARTS FOR REPAIRING AND MAINTAINING THIS AIRCRAFT IS BUREAUCRATIC SLIPPAGE CONNECTED WITH LAST JULY'S CHANGE IN RESPONSIBILITY FOR NARCOTICS AID FROM THE DIRECTOR OF DEFENSE SERVICES INTELLIGENCE TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE PEOPLE'S POLICE FORCE, U SHWE THAN.

3. ON JUNE 4, THE DAY OF THE AIRCRAFT'S ARRIVAL IN RANGOON, WE ASKED THE BURMESE TO GIVE US A LIST OF THE PROBLEMS ALREADY ENCOUNTERED. WE ALSO SUGGESTED THE POSSIBILITY OF WORKING OUT AN AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE SPARE PARTS THROUGH HELI-ORIENT.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 RANGOO 03487 150928Z

IN EARLY JULY, WE RENEWED THIS REQUEST AND OFFERED INFORMALLY

THROUGH THE DIRECTOR OF DEFENSE SERVICE INTELLIGENCE. HOWEVER, WE HEARD NOTHING ON THIS FROM THE BURMESE UNTIL EARLY THIS MONTH, WHEN AN ASSISTANT TO U SHWE THAN TELEPHONED AN EMBOFF TO ASK IF THE BAF COULD OBTAIN SPARE PARTS FOR THE F-27 BY ORDERING THEM DIRECTLY FROM HELI-ORIENT IN THE SAME MANNER AS FOR THE BELL HELICOPTERS. EMBOFF RESPONDED THAT THE PRESENT HELI-ORIENT CONTRACT DOES NOT COVER SPARE PARTS FOR THE F-27; HOWEVER, IF THE GUB SO DESIRED IT WOULD PROBABLY BE POSSIBLE TO NEGOTIATE A NEW AGREEMENT (PROAG) FOR THIS PURPOSE. HE SUGGESTED THAT U SHWE THAN SEND US A LETTER MAKING THIS REQUEST, AND WE WOULD THEN FORWARD IT TO WASHINGTON, WHERE APPROVAL SEEMED LIKELY. WE HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED THIS LETTER FROM U SHWE THAN.

6. ON OCTOBER 13 EMBOFF DISCUSSED THE F-27 PROBLEM WITH MAJ. TIN MAUNG, ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR OF DEFENSE SERVICES INTELLIGENCE AND FORMERLY OUR PRINCIPAL DAY-TO-DAY CONTACT ON NARCOTICS AID MATTERS. HE EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE DISAPPOINTMENT THAT THE SPARE PARTS PROBLEM HAD NOT YET BEEN RESOLVED, AND POINTED OUT THAT THE ARMED FORCES HAD PLANNED TO USE THE F-27 IN ANTI-NARCOTICS OPERATIONS THIS WINTER. HE SAID THE BAF HAD SENT TO U SHWE THAN NEARLY TWO MONTHS AGO A LIST OF THE SPECIFIC REPAIRS WHICH WERE NEEDED, ALONG WITH A REQUEST THAT HE ASK THE AMERICANS FOR NECESSARY SPARE PARTS; HOWEVER, U SHWE THAN'S ASSISTANTS, BEING "INEFFICIENT CIVILIANS," DID NOT UNDERSTAND THAT A NEW AGREEMENT WAS REQUIRED NOR DID THEY APPRECIATE THE URGENCY OF THE MATTER. MAJ TIN MAUNG PROMISED THAT HE AND HIS BOSS, COL. MYO AUNG, WOULD TAKE THE AFFAIR PROMPTLY IN HAND AND SEE TO IT THAT WE ARE GIVEN A LIST OF THE AIRCRAFT'S PROBLEMS AND A FORMAL REQUEST FROM U SHWE THAN FOR A SPARE PARTS AGREEMENT.

7. MAJ . TIN MAUNG IS IN FACT IN A POSITION TO DO WHAT HE SAID HE WILL DO, AND ON THE BASIS OF OUR PAST EXTENSIVE DEALINGS WITH HIM, WE ARE REASONABLY CONFIDENT HE WILL DO IT.

8. ALTHOUGH THIS AIRCRAFT HAS BEEN A DISAPPOINTMENT TO ALL CONCERNED, WE SEE LITTLE TO BE DONE AT THIS POINT BUT TO  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 RANGOO 03487 150928Z

PRESS ON AS BEST WE CAN TO HELP THE BURMESE GET IT OPERATIONAL AND TO FULFILL ITS INTENDED MISSION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. TO THIS END, WE REQUEST THAT WE BE GIVEN AUTHORITY TO NEGOTIATE A PROAG FOR THE PROVISION OF SPARE PARTS THROUGH HELI-ORIENT AS SOON AS WE RECEIVE A FORMAL REQUEST FROM THE BURMESE.  
OSBORN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY AIRCRAFT, DRUG CONTROL, SPARE PARTS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 OCT 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** izenbei0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976RANGOO03487  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760387-1076  
**From:** RANGOON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19761047/aaaaboontel  
**Line Count:** 114  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** izenbei0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 24 MAY 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <24 MAY 2004 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <20 SEP 2004 by izenbei0>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NARCOTICS ASSISTANCE -- F-27  
**TAGS:** SNAR, BM, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006